**With laws that actually interfere with the action of justice, I myself am compelled to prosecute disorders that affect the security of the state and to repress them arbitrarily.**

Penal laws should read as though engraved on tables of marble, and should be as concise as the Decalogue.

A law should always lay down a general principle; it would be futile to attempt to foresee all possible cases.

4th. (To General Berthier.) I have just received your dispatch. The last news from Italy is that on the £3d Mass^na was at the bridge of Cornigliano; he is therefore really blockaded in Genoa. It may happen: that Mass&na will capitulate and evacuate Genoa; (or that) Mass6na's positions at Genoa will be carried. In either case, you must see that General Melas can move from Genoa to Aosta in eight days, and if he reached there before you could debouch with £0,000 men, the odds would be mueh in his favour in attempting to hold the passage into Italy. Therefore try to get General Chabran's (command), together with a thousand cavalry, to Aosta by the 10th of May, and the rest by the 12th and 18th. I leave to-morrow night, and will be at Genoa on the 18th.

*5th.* (To Berthier.) I have just learned by semaphore that Moreau has been engaged with the enemy at Stotikiieh. that he has made 7000 nrisoners. cantured nine